



WEEKLY EARNINGS OF EMPLOYEES (DISTRIBUTION), AUSTRALIA, AUGUST 1982 (PRELIMINARY)

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MAIN FEATURES

In August 1982 the estimated average weekly earnings of full-time male employees aged 20 years and over was \$335, an increase of 15.9% over August 1981. For full-time female employees aged 20 years and over the figure was \$261, an increase of 12.5%. Comparable figures for males and females aged 15-19 years were \$169 (13.4% increase) and \$154 (10.0% increase) respectively.

The table below shows percentages of full-time employees aged 20 years and over earning less than various weekly amounts in August 1981 and August 1982, and the percentage change over that time:

	Males			Females		
	1981 (\$)	1982 (\$)	Change (%)	1981 (\$)	1982 (\$)	Change (%)
25 per cent earned less than	213	243	14.1	183	207	13.1
50 per cent earned less than	260	304	16.9	215	245	14.0
75 per cent earned less than	339	391	15.3	261	296	13.4
90 per cent earned less than	448	520	16.1	326	374	14.7

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

In August 1982 a sample household survey, based on the monthly population survey, was conducted throughout Australia in order to obtain information about the weekly earnings and frequency of pay of wage and salary earners. For the sake of brevity, wage and salary earners are referred to in the tables as 'employees'.

2. This publication contains a summary of results of the survey of weekly earnings. Further estimates of weekly earnings and frequency of pay will be published in *Weekly Earnings of Employees (Distribution), Australia* (6310.0). Although the survey obtained separate particulars of earnings from main and other jobs, this publication contains only details of earnings from *all* jobs (except in Table 3).

The population survey

3. The survey was based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.) and covered about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information was obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers, the interviews being conducted during the two weeks beginning 9 August 1982.

Scope

4. The estimates relate to all persons aged 15 years and over who were employed as wage and salary earners in their main job, except:

- (a) members of the permanent defence forces,
- (b) certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations,
- (c) overseas visitors holidaying in Australia,
- (d) members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia,
- (e) patients in hospitals and sanatoria or inmates of gaols, reformatories, etc. and
- (f) persons on workers' compensation.

Interpretation of results

5. Since the estimates are based on a sample, they are subject to sampling variability. (See Technical note, page 7.) In addition, they are subject to errors of response and reporting. Evidence from other sources suggests that there may be some understatement of earnings because of imperfect recall or knowledge of sources of earnings by the person, generally the housewife, who answered questions on earnings on behalf of other members of the household. In addition respondents were asked to indicate the amount of earnings in terms of ranges. (An indication of the earnings ranges used can be obtained from Table 1.)

Definitions

6. *Weekly earnings* refers to the amount of 'last total pay' prior to the interview (i.e. before taxation and other deductions have been made). For persons paid other than weekly, earnings were converted to a weekly equivalent. No adjustment has been made for any back payment of wage rises or pre-payment of leave, etc.

7. *Median weekly earnings* is the amount which divides the distribution of individuals into two equal groups, one having earnings above and the other below that amount. Medians were calculated from grouped data, the class intervals in some cases being finer than those published in the tables. Linear interpolation was used within the class interval in which the median fell.

8. *Mean weekly earnings* is the amount obtained by dividing the total earnings of a group by the number of units in that group.

9. The *main job* was defined as the job at which most hours were worked during the survey week (i.e. the week before the interview week). The *second job* was defined to include all remaining jobs in which some hours were worked during the survey week.

10. *Full-time employees* are those who *usually* work 35 hours a week or more (in all jobs) and others who, although usually part-time employees, worked 35 hours or more during the survey week. It should be noted that some full-time employees may have worked or been paid for less than a full week. *Part-time employees* are those who usually work less than 35 hours a week and who did so during the survey week. When recording hours of work, fractions of an hour were disregarded.

11. For the purposes of the survey persons were classified as having a second job if, during the survey week, they:

- (a) worked in a second job; and
- (b) were employed as a wage or salary earner in both of their jobs.

Service in the reserve defence forces was not regarded as a second job. Persons who by the nature of their employment worked for more than one employer, e.g. domestics, odd-job men, baby-sitters, etc., were not counted as multiple jobholders unless they also held another job of a different kind; nor were those who worked for more than one employer solely by reasons of changing jobs during the survey week.

Comparability of estimates with those for previous years

12. Similar surveys of weekly earnings have been conducted annually since August 1975. However, care must be taken in making comparison from one survey period to another as the 1975 survey data related to earnings from *all jobs* and *hours worked*, whereas subsequent survey publications contain tables on earnings from the *main job* as well as *all jobs* and statistics of *hours paid for* as well as *hours worked*.

13. Since 1978 survey estimates have been based on revised population benchmarks, derived from the 1976 Population Census, adjusted for underenumeration. Estimates of numbers of employees in these surveys are therefore not comparable with those from earlier surveys. Estimates on the revised basis for earlier years are not available. However, it is considered that the estimates of mean and median earnings would have been only slightly affected by the change.

Reliability of the estimates

14. Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings, they may differ from the figures that would have been produced if the information had been obtained from occupants of all dwellings. An indication of the likely difference is given in the Technical note, page 7. See also paragraph 6 of the Technical note regarding non-sampling errors.

Related publications

15. Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are currently available on request. It should be noted however that changes are being made to the frequency and format of some of the surveys. For details of the new arrangements refer to *Information Paper, Review of ABS Employment Statistics*. (6239.0).

Weekly Earnings of Employees (Distribution), Australia, August 1981 (6310.0)

Average Weekly Earnings, Australia, (Preliminary) (6301.0), and final publication (6302.0)—issued quarterly

Earnings and Hours of Employees, Distribution and Composition, Australia (Preliminary) (6305.0), and final publication (6306.0)—sample survey conducted each May from 1974 to 1981.

Earnings and Hours of Employees, Australia (6304.0)—sample survey conducted each October from 1972 to 1981.

Income Distribution, Australia, 1978-79:

Individuals (Preliminary) (6501.0), and final (6502.0)

Income Units (Preliminary) (6522.0) and final (6523.0)

Families (Preliminary) (6506.0)

Supplementary Tables (6504.0)

Wage Rates Indexes, Australia, (Preliminary) (6311.0)—issued monthly

Wage Rates, Australia (6312.0)—issued monthly

The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0)—issued monthly.

16. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

- * subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses. See paragraph 5 page 7.
- .. not applicable

17. Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

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Australian Statistician

TABLE 1. ALL EMPLOYEES : WEEKLY EARNINGS IN ALL JOBS AND FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME STATUS, STATES AND TERRITORIES, AUGUST 1982

	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Australia
MALE FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES									
—' 000—									
Weekly earnings (\$)—									
Under 100	15.7	9.8	8.3	3.9	4.8	1.6			44.1
100 and under 110	9.0	5.3	6.4	2.6	*				26.2
110 " 120	6.0	7.6	*	2.6	3.2	1.8			23.9
120 " 130	11.1	8.1	6.5	3.4	3.5				34.1
130 " 140	11.0	6.4	3.9	2.9	2.9	2.3			28.3
140 " 150	10.4	7.4	4.5	3.5	2.1	1.5	2.9	3.6	29.5
150 " 160	14.2	12.4	5.3	4.3	4.7	1.5			43.1
160 " 170	13.4	10.4	8.2	3.1	2.5	1.9			40.0
170 " 180	16.9	12.2	8.1	3.7	5.4	*			49.2
180 " 190	21.1	15.9	8.9	6.3	5.0	2.1			59.4
190 " 200	16.0	18.7	8.5	5.8	4.8	2.8			57.2
200 " 210	38.2	31.3	21.2	10.9	7.8	4.0			114.9
210 " 220	30.7	25.4	13.8	10.3	8.7	3.7			94.8
220 " 230	42.4	42.5	19.7	12.6	10.3	3.3	2.2	4.2	133.1
230 " 240	35.9	33.1	18.9	10.2	12.0	3.4			115.5
240 " 250	50.8	32.9	17.9	12.0	10.2	4.2			131.6
250 " 260	63.2	41.8	25.2	15.8	13.8	6.0	2.9	4.0	169.1
260 " 280	73.8	58.7	31.6	16.6	16.7	6.5	2.0	2.5	207.4
280 " 300	74.2	64.0	33.8	21.5	16.7	6.1		2.8	220.1
300 " 320	96.7	73.1	39.0	18.1	18.5	5.6	3.0	3.6	257.6
320 " 340	61.1	42.4	24.7	16.3	11.5	3.9		2.2	163.4
340 " 360	52.3	42.6	23.4	13.7	13.8	3.8	3.0	3.0	154.2
360 " 380	43.8	36.6	17.5	9.9	9.8	2.8			124.1
380 " 400	43.8	30.3	15.6	8.7	11.1	3.3	3.5	3.0	115.7
400 " 450	71.3	47.6	30.3	15.3	18.1	5.5	3.1	5.4	196.7
450 " 500	53.1	33.2	17.5	9.3	12.4	3.2	2.8	3.5	135.1
500 " 550	39.6	25.2	15.3	5.1	9.6	1.9		5.0	103.3
550 " 600	28.9	18.1	10.3	4.3	5.6	*	3.0	2.6	72.1
600 and over	58.5	35.7	21.6	9.7	16.1	2.1	2.2	4.9	150.7
Total	1,103.2	828.5	469.2	262.4	263.1	87.2	30.7	50.2	3,094.5
—dollars—									
Median earnings	299	291	289	281	294	267	351	355	293
Mean earnings	328	317	315	304	326	292	375	394	322
Standard error of mean	2.30	2.60	2.90	3.10	3.20	4.00	11.20	9.20	1.20
MALE PART-TIME EMPLOYEES(a)									
—' 000—									
Weekly earnings (\$)—									
Under 40	17.9	14.2	10.9	6.5	6.1				57.4
40 and under 80	4.9	8.6							23.2
80 " 120	7.3	7.6	6.0	3.5	3.8				20.8
120 " 160	5.5	4.9					*	2.6	15.7
160 " 220	8.6	*	5.0	2.7	*				18.1
220 and over	17.4	9.7	4.5	*	3.9	*	*	*	38.3
Total	61.6	49.4	26.0	14.3	15.3	3.1	*	3.2	173.5
—dollars—									
Median earnings	125	90	60	51	64	111	*	50	93
Mean earnings	166	138	112	93	148	153	*	127	142
Standard error of mean	9.90	9.20	8.60	8.20	11.90	22.40	*	23.60	4.40

For footnote see end of table.

TABLE 1. ALL EMPLOYEES : WEEKLY EARNINGS IN ALL JOBS AND FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME STATUS, STATES AND TERRITORIES, AUGUST 1982—continued

	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Australia
FEMALE FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES									
— '000 —									
Weekly earnings (\$) —									
Under 100	11.1	10.2	7.5	4.4	5.8	1.6	2.4	5.4	36.9
100 and under 110	8.1	*	5.3						
110 " 120	8.3	4.6	4.5	5.0	5.1	*	2.4	5.4	22.3
120 " 130	9.0	11.2	6.8						
130 " 140	8.6	5.6	4.2	4.1	5.4	2.4	2.4	5.4	25.4
140 " 150	10.9	8.5	3.8						
150 " 160	12.8	9.2	5.9	3.7	3.9	1.8	2.4	5.4	37.4
160 " 170	15.0	10.5	7.1	3.2	3.7						41.2
170 " 180	16.0	10.8	5.4	3.7	3.2	2.7	2.6	3.1	40.9
180 " 190	18.1	18.8	7.4	4.3	3.8						55.1
190 " 200	17.2	16.9	8.9	4.1	3.6	4.0	2.6	3.1	52.8
200 " 210	31.8	27.6	12.3	8.6	6.8						91.1
210 " 220	26.9	21.9	10.9	7.1	6.0	1.9	2.6	3.1	76.6
220 " 230	31.7	23.8	12.9	5.6	6.5	1.7				83.9
230 " 240	25.8	20.0	10.6	5.9	7.2	1.5	2.4	2.9	73.1
240 " 250	27.7	20.3	9.8	5.6	6.4	1.7				73.6
250 " 260	31.6	27.2	10.0	8.3	5.0	2.0			87.2
260 " 280	36.1	33.5	12.5	8.4	6.4	2.0	*	2.8	102.5
280 " 300	26.5	21.6	10.0	5.9	5.7	2.3	3.7	5.0	73.6
300 " 320	22.5	18.3	8.1	4.2	5.1						61.7
320 " 340	17.2	11.0	5.8	5.1	3.1	2.1	3.7	5.0	42.9
340 " 360	12.2	9.6	4.3		2.7				
360 and over	49.2	35.5	18.1	9.5	11.1	3.4	2.4	5.0	134.1
Total	474.4	380.9	191.9	106.6	106.5	32.4	14.2	24.3	1,331.3
—dollars—									
Median earnings	235	233	225	229	229	223	258	265	232
Mean earnings	248	245	237	239	243	237	285	292	245
Standard error of mean	2.70	2.90	3.40	3.80	3.70	5.40	12.50	9.80	1.40
FEMALE PART-TIME EMPLOYEES(a)									
— '000 —									
Weekly earnings (\$) —									
Under 40	33.0	32.0	17.9	9.1	13.0	2.7	3.0	2.9	109.9
40 and under 60	19.7	16.0	8.4	5.6	5.6	2.6			
60 " 80	20.1	18.2	8.1	6.7	7.2	1.9	3.0	2.1	62.7
80 " 100	19.1	14.6	10.6	7.6	7.8	2.2				63.5
100 " 110	14.6	10.1	7.0	4.7	5.6	1.5	3.4	2.1	44.8
110 " 120	11.0	9.7	3.6	3.9	3.7	1.5				34.5
120 " 130	14.1	11.2	4.6	3.9	3.9	1.5	3.4	2.7	40.0
130 " 140	9.0	9.3	3.4	2.8	*	*				27.8
140 " 160	21.2	16.4	7.8	5.2	5.0	1.7	3.4	2.7	58.8
160 " 180	15.8	14.3	5.9	4.0	3.6	1.6				46.0
180 " 200	12.5	6.0	4.9	3.8	2.6			2.7	31.2
200 " 220	11.9	6.0	4.8	*	2.9	1.5			29.3
220 and over	24.3	17.6	8.3	5.6	5.2			2.5	65.4
Total	226.3	181.3	95.4	65.0	68.3	19.2	6.4	12.2	674.2
—dollars—									
Median earnings	116	110	104	108	101	101	113	142	109
Mean earnings	126	117	118	116	112	107	137	149	120
Standard error of mean	2.70	2.90	3.30	3.30	3.00	4.40	12.50	9.90	1.30

(a) Since part-time employees are defined as those who usually work less than 35 hours and who did so in the survey week, these figures may include some school teachers, academic staff in universities, air crew, etc.

TABLE 2. MEAN WEEKLY EARNINGS IN ALL JOBS : FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME EMPLOYEES,
STATE CAPITAL CITIES AND OTHER AREAS, AUGUST 1982

— \$ —

	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.
MALES						
<i>Full-time</i>						
Capital city—mean earnings	339	325	317	308	318	304
—standard error	2.90	3.10	4.10	3.60	3.60	6.50
Other areas—mean earnings	306	292	313	291	349	2.84
—standard error	3.70	4.80	4.00	6.00	6.30	5.10
<i>Part-time(a)</i>						
Capital city—mean earnings	173	136	108	85	128	*
—standard error	12.80	10.60	11.60	8.60	11.60	*
Other areas—mean earnings	153	145	117	119	222	134
—standard error	15.40	18.80	12.90	21.20	38.40	24.20
FEMALES						
<i>Full-time</i>						
Capital city—mean earnings	254	247	247	242	247	241
—standard error	3.20	3.30	4.70	4.30	4.20	7.50
Other areas—mean earnings	229	236	225	227	227	233
—standard error	4.70	6.30	4.80	8.70	8.00	7.70
<i>Part-time(a)</i>						
Capital city—mean earnings	134	120	120	120	116	120
—standard error	3.50	3.40	4.70	4.00	3.60	7.10
Other areas—mean earnings	109	110	117	106	100	95
—standard error	4.20	5.20	4.70	6.20	5.30	5.40

For footnote see Table 1.

TABLE 3. EMPLOYEES WHO WORKED IN A SECOND JOB : WEEKLY EARNINGS IN MAIN JOB
AND WEEKLY EARNINGS IN SECOND JOB, AUSTRALIA, AUGUST 1982

	Males					Females					
	Weekly earnings in second job			Mean weekly earnings in second job	Standard error	Weekly earnings in second job			Mean weekly earnings in second job	Standard error	
	Under \$30	\$30 and over	Total			Under \$30	\$30 and over	Total			
	' 000	' 000	' 000			\$	\$	' 000			' 000	' 000	$	$
Weekly earnings in main job (\$) —											
Under 140	*	*	5.4	52	4.50	7.3	11.5	18.8	49	2.30	
140 and under 200	*	5.4	6.0	79	6.60	}	{	7.3	10.6	65	4.10
200 „ 240	}	6.4	7.5	81	6.00						
240 „ 280		6.6	7.3	78	5.90						
280 and over		19.6	23.1	78	3.30									7.0	8.8	68	4.60
Total	8.4	40.9	49.3	76	2.20	12.3	25.9	38.2	58	1.90	

—dollars—

Median earnings in main job	240	275	272	..	..	111	158	142	..	..
Mean earnings in main job	256	293	287	..	..	128	181	164	..	..
Standard error of mean	17.90	9.30	8.30	..	..	7.40	7.30	5.40	..	..

TABLE 4. FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES : WEEKLY EARNINGS IN ALL JOBS AND AGE, AUSTRALIA, AUGUST 1982

	Age group (years)								
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60 and over	Total 20 and over	Total
MALES									
	— '000 —								
Weekly earnings (\$)—									
Under 110	40.8	7.6	6.3	7.0	4.5	*	*	29.6	70.3
110 and under 120	17.6	7.1	6.4	*	5.3	7.9	6.8	6.3	23.9
120 " 130	21.7							12.4	34.1
130 " 140	19.6	5.2	*	6.1	5.3	7.1	4.6	8.7	28.3
140 " 150	15.1							14.4	29.5
150 " 160	20.5	7.5	5.3	7.1	8.1	9.2	8.5	22.6	43.1
160 " 170	18.7	5.6	7.2					21.4	40.0
170 " 180	14.4	11.1	10.6	8.8	6.4	7.1	4.6	34.8	49.2
180 " 190	13.5	13.9	10.6					45.8	59.4
190 " 200	9.8	13.2	10.6	10.1	7.8	9.2	8.5	47.4	57.2
200 " 210	12.4	28.5	26.1	19.3	15.1			102.6	114.9
210 " 220	9.9	23.3	22.7	15.8	13.0	6.0	7.8	85.0	94.8
220 " 230	6.5	30.1	35.6	23.4	21.0	12.1		126.5	133.1
230 " 240	4.9	24.4	29.4	22.7	19.7	10.8	6.2	110.5	115.5
240 " 250	5.1	30.0	34.0	25.7	19.4	11.0		126.5	131.6
250 " 260	6.2	29.6	48.3	34.7	32.0	13.5	4.8	162.9	169.1
260 " 280	5.7	40.0	58.7	39.3	37.7	15.6	10.5	201.7	207.4
280 " 300	4.9	35.4	69.4	44.2	38.6	16.6	11.1	215.3	220.1
300 " 320	4.5	32.0	88.3	63.3	43.7	18.7	9.3	255.2	257.6
320 " 340		22.2	55.1	39.3	27.1	11.1	6.5	161.3	163.4
340 " 360	4.8	19.8	58.3	38.3	25.4	7.5	7.7	153.8	154.2
360 " 380		11.7	45.3	34.0	21.9	7.4		123.5	124.1
380 " 400	4.8	11.1	42.0	32.8	17.7	8.1	7.5	115.1	115.7
400 " 450		11.2	68.1	61.9	38.5	11.9		195.9	196.7
450 " 500	4.8	8.9	44.1	42.4	25.1	9.4	4.8	134.6	135.1
500 " 550		4.6	29.6	35.2	23.7	7.2		102.8	103.3
550 " 600	4.8	*	18.2	24.0	17.2	7.5	9.2	71.8	72.1
600 and over		7.2	35.7	53.1	32.1	15.8		149.7	150.7
Total	256.7	445.1	870.1	692.4	506.4	215.9	107.9	2,837.8	3,094.5
—dollars—									
Median earnings	157	255	311	327	309	296	284	304	293
Mean earnings	169	275	337	365	348	341	312	335	322
Standard error of mean	2.10	2.70	2.30	2.80	3.10	4.70	6.10	1.30	1.20
FEMALES									
	— '000 —								
Weekly earnings (\$)—									
Under 110	31.4	5.7	8.3	6.6	4.9			27.7	59.1
110 and under 120	15.7	9.2	5.5	5.3	4.9	5.7	6.3	6.6	22.3
120 " 130	22.9							11.1	34.0
130 " 140	17.8	5.3	6.8	5.4	5.5	7.0	4.6	7.5	25.4
140 " 150	17.9							11.1	29.0
150 " 160	15.5	7.8	7.1	*	7.0	7.6	6.6	21.9	37.4
160 " 170	16.7	9.7						24.5	41.2
170 " 180	12.8	10.9	6.7	5.5	6.6	7.0	4.6	28.1	40.9
180 " 190	12.5	15.0	8.4	10.1				42.5	55.1
190 " 200	7.8	17.3	8.8	8.5	8.1	7.6	6.6	45.0	52.8
200 " 210	6.4	30.0	19.4	18.2	14.0			84.7	91.1
210 " 220	4.8	26.2	17.9	12.5	10.9	7.0	4.6	71.8	76.6
220 " 230	7.9	30.1	20.3	14.1	12.8			80.9	83.9
230 " 240		25.4	18.0	12.1	9.8	8.0	4.6	71.5	73.1
240 " 250	7.9	22.0	21.5	13.5	10.7			71.6	73.6
250 " 260		25.5	25.7	17.5	11.2	4.7	6.6	85.9	87.2
260 " 280	6.0	28.2	34.9	17.9	15.0			100.7	102.5
280 " 300		17.8	24.4	16.8	8.2	11.4	6.6	72.9	73.6
300 " 320	6.0	15.6	23.8	13.9	6.9			61.2	61.7
320 " 340		10.0	15.8	8.7	5.2	4.7	6.6	42.2	42.9
340 " 360		4.9	13.4	9.5	*			33.4	33.8
360 " 400	6.0	*	27.9	12.1	7.5	4.7	6.6	52.9	53.5
400 and over		6.4	32.8	23.1	11.5			79.2	80.7
Total	196.2	327.1	347.5	234.4	164.3	44.3	17.5	1,135.1	1,331.3
—dollars—									
Median earnings	146	229	260	251	238	245	238	245	232
Mean earnings	154	237	280	270	257	262	255	261	245
Standard error of mean	2.20	2.70	3.00	3.60	4.10	8.00	12.40	1.60	1.40

TECHNICAL NOTE

Estimation procedure

The estimates are derived from the population survey by use of a complex ratio estimation procedure, which ensures that the survey estimates conform to an independently estimated distribution of the population by age and sex, rather than to the age and sex distribution within the sample itself.

Reliability of the estimates

2. Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings they are subject to sampling variability; that is, they may differ from the figures that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the *standard error*, which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of dwellings was included. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors. Another measure is the *relative standard error*, which expresses the standard error as a percentage of the estimate.

3. Space does not allow for the separate indication of the standard errors of all estimates in this publication. A table of standard errors for general application to estimates of numbers of persons is given below. These figures will not give a precise measure of the standard error of a particular estimate, but they will provide an indication of its magnitude. An example of the calculation and use of standard errors is as follows:

The estimated number of male part-time employees in Victoria is 49,400 (Table 1). From the table below it can be seen that the estimate has a standard error of about 2,700 and therefore there are about two

chances in three that the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey would fall within the range 46,700 to 52,100 and about nineteen chances in twenty that the value would fall within the range 44,000 to 54,800.

4. Approximate standard errors of estimates of means in this publication are included in the tables in which the estimates are given. Standard errors of estimates of medians are approximately the same as the standard errors of corresponding means.

5. As the standard errors in the table below show the smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard error. Very small estimates are thus subject to such high standard errors (relative to the size of the estimate) as to detract seriously from their value for most reasonable uses. In this publication estimates below the levels shown in the following table, and means and medians based on such estimates, have not been included. Although figures for numbers of employees can in some cases be derived by subtraction they should not be regarded as reliable.

6. The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the standard error, should not be confused with inaccuracies that may occur because of imperfections in reporting by interviewers and respondents. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as the *non-sampling error*, and they may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or only a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and efficient operating procedures.

STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

Size of estimate (persons)	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Australia	
									— number —	Per cent of estimate
1,500						300				
2,000						340	470	440		
2,500				510	510	380	510	480		
3,000				550	560	410	550	510		
3,500			740	590	590	430	590	540		
4,000			780	620	630	460	620	560		
4,500	1,000	1,000	820	650	660	480	650	590	970	21.6
5,000	1,100	1,100	860	680	690	500	680	610	1,000	20.0
6,000	1,200	1,200	930	730	750	530	740	650	1,100	18.0
10,000	1,500	1,400	1,200	900	920	640	910	750	1,400	14.0
20,000	2,000	1,900	1,500	1,200	1,200	810	1,200	910	2,000	10.0
50,000	3,000	2,700	2,200	1,600	1,700	1,100	1,700	1,100	2,900	5.8
100,000	3,900	3,500	2,800	2,100	2,100	1,300		1,300	3,900	3.9
200,000	5,000	4,400	3,600	2,600	2,600	1,500			5,100	2.6
300,000	5,800	5,000	4,100	2,900	2,900				6,000	2.0
500,000	6,900	5,800	4,800	3,300	3,300				7,200	1.4
1,000,000	8,500	7,000	5,900						9,100	0.9
2,000,000	10,000	8,400							11,000	0.6
5,000,000									15,000	0.3

